



**SENATOR GORDON TRIMBLE**  
**SENATE UPDATE**

**Legislative Package**  
**2005**

Senator Trimble's legislative package includes legislation on Noise Abatement issues, Campaign Spending Reform, Environmental Impact, Maritime Issues and support for Hawaii's Reservists and National Guard members. He has introduced a total of 20 bills which are listed on the next page. Some of the highlights of the package are:

**SB 1603 Relating to Noise:** This bill gives an additional tool to law enforcement officers to actually impound loud vehicles or mopeds immediately. The vehicle can then be used as evidence in a court hearing to demonstrate how loud the engine, muffler, or radio was as the vehicle passed through the neighborhood.

**SB 1612 Relating to conforming state standard deduction to federal standard deduction:** This bill would help both lower and middle class residents of Hawaii. As mentioned in the January newsletter, Hawaii hasn't changed the standard deductions allowed for taxpayers since 1989. Both the Governor and the Senate President have proposed versions of this concept, which more gradually reach the same goal of conforming Hawaii's standard deductions to the Federal government's. The Senate Minority Caucus bill package includes a provision to raise Hawaii's personal exemption to the same level as the Federal Government's. The bills work together to lower income tax.

**SB 1602 Relating to tax credits:** Governor Lingle has proposed to close the pay gap for State Employees who are called up to serve on active duty for their National Guard and Reserve units. Senator Trimble's bill extends that option for private companies that provide additional pay for their employees to ensure the service people are not taking a pay cut when they go on active duty. Senator Trimble announced this proposal in a press conference in January.

**SB 1609 Campaign Spending Reform:** As he did during the 2004 legislative session, Senator Trimble has again introduced a bill to prohibit campaign contributions from corporations and labor organizations. During last session, this bill passed the Senate with only one dissenting vote. However it was not heard in the House.

**SB 1619 Tax Credits:** In light of the City Council's recent vote to overturn the Lease to Fee conversion law, Senator Trimble introduced a measure to provide tax credits for land owners who voluntarily choose to allow tenants to purchase the fee interest of their property.

**Traffic Cameras.**

There are four bills which relate to the traffic cam programs: SB 83, SB 1364, HB 1324, HB 1325. Copies can be obtained from Senator Trimble's office by calling 586-7100.